

Giving Thanks & Praying For Camp

Sagitawa Christian Camping Society

Applying God's Word to Every Day Life

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The camp train just keeps on chugging! Just a few months ago we sent a newsletter sharing all that we saw the Lord do this summer... and now as we write this one, we are looking forward to summer 2024! The same God who has been at work here at Sagitawa for the last 56 summers, will still be doing a mighty work this next one too!

We have opened applications for our 2024 Summer Team. It is so exciting to watch individuals send in their

applications. Campers we've had years past, filling out SEED applications. SEEDs from summers past filling out their staff applications for the first time. And returning staff sharing what they have seen the Lord do in their lives since being at camp last. It is so encouraging to watch the work that the Lord does in people's hearts over the years at camp, and the months away from camp as well. Praise be to God! What a blessing it is to know (and witness) that He continues His good work in each of these individuals lives, wherever they might be.

Not only have applications for Summer 2024 opened, but so has the recruitment process. Near the end of November, Ruthie and Brady were out at Prairie Bible College connecting with students. Between now and spring there will be more opportunities for us to head to Bible schools,

sharing about the wonderful ministry opportunities out at Camp Sagitawa this summer.

But as the data will show over and over again, the biggest place that new staff hear about camp... is from you! From individuals who are passionate about and have been affected by their time at camp.

People often ask about practical ways to be involved with camp and

we often forget this one! (Don't mistake us though, we love and so appreciate each and every other way you support as well!) Sharing with those around you how camp has made

an impact in your life makes a difference. Talking to someone you know about how you could see them using their gifts (be specific in naming some of those gifts. Specific is terrific!) at camp, may open up their eyes and heart to something they might not have yet considered.

We know, Summer 2024 feels really far away right now. It even feels weird to be writing the number 2024. But in "the camp world" we have been looking that direction for a while now. Though we don't know who they are, we've begun praying for the team of Summer 2024. Would you join us? Will you join with us in eager anticipation of what the Lord is going to do?



— Devotional —



Look at the calendar! Only a couple of weeks until Christmas; time to get shopping, get cooking, get baking, get decorating. So much to do, only so much time to get it done... in the doing and the getting and the going, do we find Christmas? Maybe we do find a glimpse of it - Peace on earth - the day can be quite quiet, little traffic, people traveling with direction and purpose, not just going; setting aside time and space for important relationships. Good will toward men; for some amount of time people focus on getting along, not being bothered, setting aside ego. The question remains, "What is Christmas?"

The deep roots of our faith are bedded in Jewish traditions. We count the Hebrew scriptures as a prequel; the "Old Testament" sets the context for the message of the "New Testament". Jesus fulfilled the Law, and paid the penalty for sin; this message landed with God's chosen people, in Israel, among the Jews.. As the Church grew away from its primary Jewish roots by integrating non-Jewish peoples, the celebrations that marked the calendar were given a particular Christian bent; an update for those fully forgiven, not just seeking forgiveness through works. Jesus death and resurrection was clearly

affiliated with the Passover celebration, on the calendar, but celebrating His birth had no particular calendar home. The Jewish celebration of Hanukkah bridged the message of the Gospel: the worship anew in the Temple (of the Church), the presence of God refreshed (by His Holy Spirit living in us). Small changes, and over time, a new celebration, peculiar to the Christian church, focussed on Christ's birth - Christmas! Yet our heritage is based on borrowed things; as the mission moved forward, new people groups came to Salvation, and came with traditions and holiday festivals, some of which were integrated into the celebrations of Jesus birth. Geography was a real barrier, and time and distance embedded particular cultural practices into the Churches celebrations in those areas.

In Canada we have the advantage of living with a multitude of cultures; able to compare and contrast traditions and celebrations transplanted from other lands. So what of Christmas? It would seem to me to be eminently proper to celebrate the birth of The One. How to do it? With much enthusiasm! Decorate, blow horns, sing songs, invite guests, enjoy a meal, visit together, give gifts, light a candle, say a prayer - Jesus said, "I came to give you life, and life more abundantly!"

When to do it? December 25th has a strong traditional hold as "the day", January 7th as well (Christmas twice!?, I'm up for that!), but our Christian traditions have a human history - politics and theology often in competition - so let us hold gently the things we

have "always done" and look to do the thing that we are called to always do - glorify God.

One of my traditions has been that the Christmas season starts with the Charlie Brown Christmas special, with Linus focussing on the heart of the celebration:

"Luke 2: ...8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. 10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. 12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." (KJV)

...and that's what Christmas is about, [Charlie Brown]."

May the simplicity of going to worship the Christ, mark the joy of your Christmas celebration. May the traditions you hold to, bring glory to God.

- Written by Chad Wilson

— Summer 2024 Team —



Testimonials from last years team:

“At camp, I learned to rely on God more than I ever have before, and I learned many things about God’s character. As I felt my energy deplete, he would give me far more so that I could finish each week well. It is certainly an experience I would recommend to anyone desiring to become closer to God.”

“I’ve been coming to camp for about three years now, this past year has definitely been one of the more meaningful summers. After I devoted my life to God and started the journey of building a relationship with Him I have realized just how lost I had been without Him in my life. Coming to camp is such an amazing experience. Not only was I able to strengthen my relationship with the Lord but I was able to meet people with the same views and beliefs as me. If you ever have the chance to come out to camp, even just for a week, I highly recommend! It might change your life, just as it has changed mine.”

“Being at camp this summer was such an amazing experience! Being a first time cabin leader is quite the experience but I was able to learn so much from it—not only from God but from my campers as well. It’s a fantastic way to meet new people, create new friendships, and practice discipleship in a fun environment. There are so many amazing people that I got the opportunity to work with this year and I created so many lasting memories. Camp is such a strong and loving community and I highly recommend coming to experience what it has to offer.”



Like we mentioned on the first page, applications for summer 2024 are now open! To fill one out, head to our website www.campsagitawa.ca

Would you commit in January to spending some time out at camp this summer? Come taste and see the amazing things that the Lord is doing in the lives of both the campers and the staff.

Seeking Cabin Leaders!

Do you care about kids hearing the Gospel? Do you have a week or two, or even a whole month that you could give towards this end? We need you! *Cabin Leaders may receive \$750 pay per week out at camp.*

For every one adult who says yes to cabin leading, 8 kids can come to camp!

Open Positions

To run camp we need people with all different types of skills and talents. From cabin leaders, laundry, cooks, head cabin leaders, track directors, first aid, maintenance, photographers, office staff, kitchen help, prayer soldiers, chapel speakers, SEEDs, and more!

Some of these positions are filled by individuals here for 4 months, others by some who are here for just a few days. How might YOU be involved?

[Check out our website for all open positions](http://www.campsagitawa.ca)

— Updates —

Camp Sagitawa Cook Book!

These cook books, filled with many camp favourites (and shrunk down from camp size) are now available for purchase. Simply reach out to the office to get your copy today!

\$25 each

Don't wait too long. Half of them have already sold!



Are you a professional hairdresser? Or an eager amateur?

We are looking for some individuals to volunteer their skills over one of two weekends this summer. There is something about going from scraggly hair in the middle of summer to slick and clean that feels so rejuvenating.

Annual General Meeting—January 20

Are you interested in becoming more involved with camp all year round? Consider becoming a society member!

Society members attend the annual general meeting every year, where yearly reports are presented, the budget is approved, elections for society members to sit on the board, and other society changes are approved. Society members are also able to volunteer for positions that take a more formal and hands on approach to the running of camp all year round, such as sitting on the board or on a committee.

We are looking for more individuals to join our Board. Would you take time before the Lord, asking if this is a place He would like you to serve?

Contact the office if you are in need of more information or a membership application.

Upcoming events

30
DEC

Annual Alumni Reunion 1:30 PM - 8:00 at Camp Sagitawa

20
JAN

Annual General Meeting 2:00 PM
Location TBA

16-18
FEB

Family & Youth Ski Camp

18-24
MAR

BC Spring Break Camps

Cut out and add camp to your refrigerator / Christmas Card line up!



merry
christmas

CAMP SAGITAWA
2023



— Jehovah Jireh —



A big thank you to everyone who jumped on board with us for the matching campaign! And to the generous donor who made this campaign possible!

MATCHING Campaign



\$40,021.60

~~\$38,986~~
~~\$35,182~~

We blew right past \$30,000!!

~~\$22,182~~ Given out of the \$30,000 promised to be matched

Financial Update

Again we say “The Lord is truly good!” In our last letter we shared some financial challenges – the Lord has provided. The fiscal year closed with income and expenses within a few thousand of each other – the accountants will do a fine toothed check of the numbers for presentation at the AGM. The matching donation campaign has been a rousing success, and we are pushing into our new fiscal year knowing that the Lord will continue to provide for His work.

We are in the process of writing and submitting Grant applications – pray that we find favour with those decision makers.

We continue to be humbled by the responsibility He places on us to use His resources carefully. If you are thinking of additional giving, know that General Fund donations will be used where the need is greatest, but, with the shift to directly paying more positions, money previously earmarked for the “Bursary Fund” can be directed to the “Staff Fund” to support the people in those positions.

Giving on-line!

- 👍 **E-transfer** is the least costly method to make donations. While doing online banking send an e-transfer to office@campsagitawa.ca
- 👍 **PayPal** has a link on our website. Their fee is 1.92%. Camp issues the tax receipt.
- 👍 **Canada Helps** has a link on our website. Their fee is 3.9%. They issue the tax receipt.

DONATE



Other ways to give!

- 👍 **The Camp Office** uses Moneris to process cards. Their fee is 1.99%. Camp issues the tax receipt.
- 👍 **Postdated cheques** can be given to the office and are deposited as they become due. No fee. Camp provides the tax receipts.



Washhouse / Male SEED Cabin Update

Since our last newsletter much has happened with the new washhouse / male SEED cabin! And all thanks to amazing volunteers who have given of their time and talents. There is still some more left to finish up! Those interested in helping can reach out to Steve Erickson at 250-784-8742



Rejoice With Us!



Summer 2024 registration will be open January 10, 2024!

What camps are you most excited for?! We love them all for different reasons... the carnival during the last day of Starter and Taster camps, the crazy night games during Reach Out, the amazing music during the Family & Music Retreat, sleeping in tents and making campfire meals during Adventure Weeks! And in all of these camps, having amazing adventures and making awesome memories with friends, new and old!

Camp Sagitawa

SUMMER 2024

Adventure Trips

Trip Name	Dates	Ages	Fee
Adventure Wk 1	July 7 - 12	11 - 15	\$330
Adventure Wk 2	July 28 - Aug 2	11 - 15	\$330

Other Adventure Trips may become available depending on staffing this spring and summer. Keep an eye on our website for update.

Deposit = 20% of registration fee. Balance due on arrival
Registration closes 3 days prior to trip

Kids & Youth

Camp	Dates	Grade	Classic	Outdoor Chall. Waterfront Perf. Arts
Kids 1	June 31 - July 5	gr 4 - 7	\$310	\$325
Kids 2	July 7 - 12	gr 5 - 8	\$310	\$325
Reach Out	July 14 - 19	gr 7 - 10	\$310	---
Starter 1	July 21 - 25	gr 3 - 6	\$260	---
Taster 1	July 24 - 25	gr 2 - 5	\$95	---
Kids 3	July 28 - Aug 2	gr 4 - 7	\$310	\$325
Kids 4	Aug 4 - 9	gr 6 - 9	\$310	\$325
Starter 2	Aug 11 - 15	gr 3 - 6	\$260	---
Taster 2	Aug 14 - 15	gr 2 - 5	\$95	---

Deposit = 20% of registration fee. Balance due on arrival
Get \$10 off by registering before April 1. Register 2 or more siblings for a discount

Family Retreats

Camp	Dates	Fee
Single Parent Family Camp	May 10 - 12	\$105 per family
Family & Music Retreat	June 14 - 16	\$175 for 13+ (\$75 for 4 - 12)
Sagitawa Family Retreat	Aug 16 - 19	\$185 for 13+ (\$85 for 4 - 12)

Deposit = 20% of registration fee. Balance due on arrival.
Maximum fee cost per family = \$550 Donations accepted at the camp office

MAIN CAMP OFFICE:

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Full Time Staff

Chad Wilson - CAO
 Ruthie Martin - Food Services
 Brady Martin - Personnel & Skills Director
 Tassie Perron - Program Director

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 Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more info!

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS:

Gordon Miller - Past President	Rolla, BC	gordond@xplornet.com
Steve Erickson - President	Dawson Creek, BC	president@campssagitawa.ca
Vacant - Vice President		
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